(b) if so, the date from which the Service would be created; and

(c) what would be the main functions of the proposed Service?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) to (c) A suggestion has been put forward by the Chief Election Commissioner with regard to the creation of an All India Election Service. It has been placed before the Committee on Electoral Reforms for consideration.

Foundry Pig Iron Projects in Orissa

292. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number and locations of the Foundry Pig Iron Projects set up in Orissa;

(b) the capacity of each of these projects;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to set up more such Plants in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) and (b) Only one pig iron unit, with a capacity of 1 lakh tonne per annum has so far been set up in Orissa at Barbil (Keonjhar).

(c) and (d) With a view to encourage production of pig iron in the secondary sector this industry has been delicensed. Interested entrepreneurs have also been assured of assistance. Certain parties have been issued rgistration for the establishment of new pig iron unit in Orissa.

Smuggled Goods Confiscated by Customs Authorities

293. SHRI M. VINCENT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value in rupees of smuggled goods confiscated by the Customs Authorities during 1989 ; and

(b) what is the value in rupees of the arms and ammunitions confiscated during 1989 especially in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : (a) The total value of the smuggled goods recovered by the Customs authorities all over India during 1989 was Rs. 554.59 crores.

(b) The total value of arms and ammunitions recovered in Tamil Nadu State by the Customs authorities in 1989 was reportedly Rs. 1.64 lakhs.

Debt Service Ratio

294. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total external debt as on the 31st December, 1989 ;

(b) what is the debt service ratio at present ; and

(c) what steps have been taken to reduce the debt service ratio?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : (a) The total medium and long-term external debt excluding NRI deposits at the end of March, 89 is estimated to be Rs. 68831 crores.